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ESSAYS BY Mariss Everitt, John Forbis, Lynne Grant, Nimi Hoffmann, André Lemmer and Peter Vale, Christine Lucia and Michael Blake, Craig MacKenzie, Shirley MacLennan, Andrew Martin, Joan Metelerkamp, Harry Owen, Brendon Robinson, Mariss Stevens, Gavin Stewart, Malvern van Wyk Smith, Laurence Wright and Dan Wylie.

BOOK DETAILS

TITLE: 'No other world' – essays on the life-work of Don MacLennan

EDITORS: Craig MacKenzie and Dan Wylie

PUBLISHER: Print Matters Heritage

ISBN: 978-0-9870095-2-4

GENRE: South African Literature/poetry

FORMAT: Soft cover

INDEX: yes

SIZE: 234 x 154mm

PAGES: 256

PHOTOGRAPHS: 5

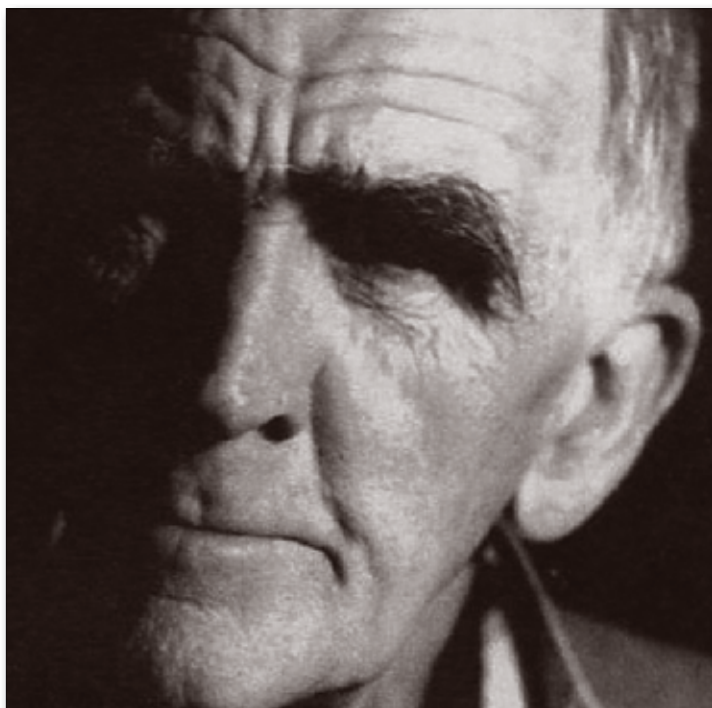
RRP: R195.00 incl. VAT and postage within South Africa

DISTRIBUTION

Publishing Print Matters (Pty) Ltd.
Cape Town – 021 789 0155
info@printmatters.co.za

ORDERING INFORMATION:

All good bookstores and from
www.printmatters.co.za
+27 (0)21 789 0155
fax 086 614 4932



*‘How many ways
there are
of being alive;
closed doors
that someone
else’s touch
may open...’*

DON MACLENNAN

'no other world'
Essays on the life-work of
DON MACLENNAN

Edited by Dan Wylie and Craig MacKenzie

No one who encountered Don MacLennan (1929-2009) during the more than three decades of his teaching career at Rhodes University is likely to forget the piercing appraisal of his blue eyes, the penetration of his questions, or the incisiveness of his opinions.

He eventually largely eschewed the pretensions of academic publishing. His favoured medium became the short, pithy talk, rich with original aphorisms on the value of story and poem, and laden with quotations from his favourite writers.

And of course poetry. Don published or printed some twenty volumes of poetry, increasingly spare and lapidary, increasingly concerned with his approaching death. Though sometimes disturbing, they above all celebrated the simple fact of being alive, being in love, being sensuous. He knew that there is “no other world” than this one. There is probably no poetry in South Africa’s national oeuvre more thoughtfully authentic than his.

No other world is the indispensable guide to the life and work of Don MacLennan - one of South Africa’s most incisive and important poets of the last few decades.



Poet Declaring – wood carving by Don MacLennan